(b) The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units, which include guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India to banks, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction etc.

Capital subsidy to leather industry

2296. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to give capital subsidy to leather industry for modernization of tanneries and down-stream leather units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to invlolve some technical institutes to assess the quantum of subsidy for each unit on a case to case basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) details of subsidy that is proposed to be given to leather units located in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched a comprehensive scheme "Integrated Development of Leather Sector (IDLS)" with an outlay of Rs. 290 crore for modernization and technology up-gradation in all the segments of the leather industry during the Tenth Plan Period. Under this scheme financial assistance to the extent of 30% of cost of plant and machinery for Small Scale Industries (SSI) and 20 % of cost of plant and machinery for other units (non-SSI units) subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakh is provided to individual units. The scheme has become operational *w.e.f.* November 3, 2005.

(c) and (d) Two technical institutes are involved in the implementation of the scheme by providing technical appraisal of the modernization proposals received for seeking Government of India subsidy, namely, Central Leather Research Institute (CLR), Chennai in Tamil Nadu for tannery and Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Noida in Uttar Pradesh for leather goods and garrnents, saddlery, leather footwear and footwear component.

(e) There is no specific amount allocated for any State under the scheme. All the eligible units located in Orissa may avail the benefit of the scheme, since the scheme is applicable at an All-India level.

Awareness on intellectual property rights

2297. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 17000 patent applications have been filed in India as compared to over two lakh patent applications filed in China;

(b) if so, whether intellectual property rights awareness is very low in our industry; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to create adequate awareness to file more applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The applications for patents filed in India during the financial year 2004-05 are 17,466. As per the information available from the website of Chinese Patent office 130,133 applications for patents were filed during the year 2004.

(b) and (c) In order to improve awareness regarding Intellectual property rights, Government has undertaken awareness and outreach activities in association with national and international organizations, industry associations and other agencies in the form of seminars, workshops and training programmes.

Hanover Technology Fair 2006

† 2298. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going to participate in the Hanover Technology Fair, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of institutions which are going to participate in this fair

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.